



**CANADIAN INTERVENTION TO THE  
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*Full version***

One of the central tenets of the OSCE's 2004 Action Plan on Gender Equality promotes the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. This resolution sets out a comprehensive agenda for the participation of women and girls in post-conflict peace-building and for the protection of their rights throughout the armed conflict spectrum. As such, a gender perspective should be incorporated into all peace and security related activities, policies and programmes, and women should be involved in decision-making at all levels in these areas.

Canada supports a comprehensive approach to security and looking at security issues with a multidimensional perspective. We hope that all OSCE participating States also recognize the soundness of this approach.

In addition, a greater emphasis on resolution 1325 activities by participating States, the Secretariat and field operations, especially OSCE officials working in the politico-military dimension, would be welcome. To accomplish this goal, participating States should support and reinforce the work of the ODIHR in this area and should adopt a cross-dimensional approach to our work.

Canada strongly and actively supports and promotes the full implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325. We are also committed to following-up the related resolutions on children and armed conflict, conflict prevention and the protection of civilians in armed conflict. These are complimentary agendas which must be collectively supported by concrete and sustained action. Canada has also been actively promoting States' obligations to exercise due diligence to prevent,

investigate and punish all acts of violence against women and girls, including in situations related to armed conflict. We encourage all participating States to take up this challenge. This includes the implementation of the United Nations' zero tolerance policy relating to sexual exploitation and abuse. Canada has been very active in the development of the UN's draft strategy in support of victims of sexual exploitation and abuse and we encourage all participating States to support these efforts.

We welcome encourage participating States to develop national strategies for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325. Canada is currently developing its own National Action Plan to implement our commitments under this Resolution, in response to both a call from the United Nations Secretary General for such actions and a call from Canadian non-governmental organizations for a coordinated whole-of-government approach. We look forward to sharing our Action Plan with participating States in the near future.

Canada is undertaking various initiatives to implement the Resolution. For example, last year we undertook an assessment of the gender training provided in Canada for military and civilian personnel involved in peace support operations in an effort to improve upon this training through our National Action Plan. Canada has always placed a high priority on ensuring that all Canadian Forces personnel receive pre-deployment training on the protection, rights and particular needs of women, and on the importance of involving women in all peace-keeping and peace-building measures. We recommend to all participating States to provide this form of training to military and civilian personnel involved in peace-support operations and also to national police forces.

At the OSCE level, in the context of the revision of the Code of Conduct Questionnaire, Canada strongly supports the inclusion of a question which will require States to provide information on their implementation of Resolution 1325. This will reinforce the importance of including the women, peace and security perspective within our responses to the Code of Conduct Questionnaire.

In conclusion, in order to further strengthen the international implementation of this Resolution, we believe participating States should enhance their evidence-based research, analysis, and policy dialogue and development related to the women, peace and security agenda. The key to

accomplishing this objective is to work in partnerships within the OSCE, between participating States, with UN agencies, and with other international organizations and civil society, and to share our lessons learned and best practices in this regard.